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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND HAWAII TOURISM  
AUTHORITY TO REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE PROCESSING OF  
STATE OF HAWAII PLANT AND ANIMAL DECLARATION FORMS,  
INCLUDING THE COSTS INVOLVED.

1 WHEREAS, section 150A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires  
2 all passengers upon arrival to Hawaii to complete a State of  
3 Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration  
6 Form requires information on the importation of plants and  
7 animals, and requests statistical information on visitors and  
8 residents; and  
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10 WHEREAS, inspections of passengers' bags for possible  
11 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii are conducted upon  
12 the passengers' arrival in Hawaii from the mainland and  
13 international locations; and  
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15 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration  
16 Form and amnesty bins at the airports are among the multiple  
17 means by which the Department of Agriculture regulates the  
18 importation of plants and animals into Hawaii; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine  
21 Branch inspects regulated commodities at all ports of entry into  
22 Hawaii; and  
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24 WHEREAS, without enhanced enforcement of importation  
25 restrictions, passengers could be knowingly or unknowingly  
26 importing prohibited plants and animals that pose a threat to  
27 Hawaii's delicate ecosystem; and  
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29 WHEREAS, information collected from the State of Hawaii  
30 Plant and Animal Declaration Form is reportedly processed and



1 used by the Department of Agriculture and the Hawaii Tourism  
2 Authority; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that more detailed  
5 information on the processing and use of data collected from the  
6 State of Hawaii Plant and Animal Declaration Form may present  
7 opportunities to glean additional insights or increase the cost-  
8 effectiveness of the process; now, therefore,  
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
11 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of  
12 2019, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Agriculture  
13 and the Hawaii Tourism Authority are requested to submit a  
14 report on the processing of the State of Hawaii Plant and Animal  
15 Declaration Form to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
16 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include:  
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- 20 (1) A description of the use of information obtained from  
21 the forms;  
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- 23 (2) The costs associated with the forms, including but not  
24 limited to costs for printing, processing, and  
25 distributing the forms and personnel costs for  
26 processing information obtained through the forms;  
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- 28 (3) The number of staff assigned to review the forms;  
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- 30 (4) The method by which the forms are disposed;  
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- 32 (5) How often forms require a follow-up;  
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- 34 (6) The effectiveness of the forms;  
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- 36 (7) The relevance and usefulness of the data relating to  
37 the visitor and returning-resident component of the  
38 form;  
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- 40 (8) The level of compliance by passengers and carriers;



1 (9) The number of penalties, if any, imposed for failure  
2 to complete the form; and  
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4 (10) Whether the Department of Agriculture or Hawaii  
5 Tourism Authority has considered an alternative to the  
6 forms; and  
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
9 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
10 Board of Agriculture, Director of Transportation, President and  
11 Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority,  
12 Department of Land and Natural Resources Invasive Species  
13 Coordinator, and Chair of the Airlines Committee of Hawaii.

